

UNITED STATES CAPITOL TOUR GUIDELINES

Public Tours

Public tours of the Capitol are conducted by Capitol Guide Service personnel.

- Public tours are available Monday - Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Tours last approximately thirty to forty-five minutes.
- Timed entry passes for Public tours are offered on a first come, first served basis, beginning at 9:00 a.m. daily. These passes are distributed at the kiosk at the corner of First Street and Maryland Avenue S.W. (Garfield Circle).
- Visitors with accessibility needs are encouraged to speak to tour guides stationed at the kiosk to request assistance or call the Congressional Special Services Office at 224-4048.

Staff-led Tours

Congressional staff may conduct tours of the Capitol to groups of up to 15 visitors.

- Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- House staff-led tour groups may enter the building through the Cannon tunnel or South Screening Facility.
- Senate staff-led tour groups may enter the Capitol through the Russell tunnel or the North Screening Facility, Monday through Friday.
- ** On Saturdays, groups may only enter through the South Screening Facility.
- At these entry points, staff should check in with the Capitol Guide on duty to be accounted for before beginning a tour.
- All visitors must display a staff-led tour sticker which is imprinted with the Member's name or room number and the current date. You may obtain individual staff-led tour stickers and packets of stickers for future use at all four points of entry.
- Staff must remain with the group until they exit the Capitol.
- To schedule staff-led tour training, call the Capitol Guide Service at 224-8406.

Dome Tours

Members of Congress may escort guests on a tour of the Capitol Dome.

- A Member must be present for a Dome tour to be conducted and must accompany his/her group for the entire tour.
- The Fire Safety Office of the Architect of the Capitol has determined the maximum tour group size is seven guests, the Member of Congress and the tour guide. The total group size is at all times limited to no more than nine individuals.
- To ensure that each visitor is aware of the physical challenges and strenuous nature of the climb into the Dome, all guests must sign a tour waiver before their tour.
- To schedule a Dome tour, call the Capitol Guide Service at 224-8406.

U.S. CAPITOL PROHIBITED ITEMS LIST
Effective December 6, 2004

	ITEM	ALL CAPITOL VISITORS [Public, Staff-Led And Member-Led]	
		CAPITOL	GALLERIES
1	<u>Aerosol Containers</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
2	<u>Any battery operated electronic device</u>	Allowed	Prohibited
		Medical devices are permitted	
3	<u>Any pointed object</u> <u>(i.e., knitting needles, letter openers, etc.)</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
		Pens and pencils are permitted.	
4	<u>Any bag larger than :</u> <u>14" wide x</u> <u>13" high x</u> <u>4" deep</u>	Prohibited A visitor with a verified meeting or appointment inside the Capitol (i.e., official business visitors), may exceed the standard maximum specified bag size if the item is necessary to conduct their business. USCP discretion shall be used in each case, with all bags subject to thorough search and security screening.	Prohibited
5	<u>Cameras</u>	Allowed	Prohibited
			Both in and out of session
6	<u>Cans and bottles</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
7	<u>Creams, lotions, or perfumes</u>	Allowed	Prohibited
			Both in and out of session
8	<u>Electric stun guns, martial arts weapons or devices</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
9	<u>Food or beverages of any kind</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
10	<u>Guns, replica guns, ammunition and fireworks</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
11	<u>Knives of any size</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
12	<u>Mace and pepper spray</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
13	<u>Non-aerosol Spray</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
		Prescriptions for medical needs are permitted	
14	<u>Razors and box cutters</u>	Prohibited	Prohibited
15	<u>Strollers</u>	Allowed	Prohibited
16	<u>Video recorders or any type of recording device</u>	Allowed	Prohibited